

Sharon Slarsky

Ayer Library Board Open Session Meeting Minutes: June 23, 2022

Sharon Slarsky, president, presiding. Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Trustees present: Becky Campaner – vice president, Maggie Durand, Susan Kennedy – treasurer, Cyndi Lavin – secretary, Deb Pedrazzi, Sharon Slarsky – president, Robert Gardner

Trustees absent: Debra Faust-Clancy, Rebecca Myers

Also present: Samantha Benoit – Assistant Director, Barbara Cheeks – Head of Adult Services, Amy Leonard – Head of Youth Services

Agenda Items: Call to Order

Review and approval of agenda: No changes

Motion: A motion was made by Becky Campaner and seconded by Bob Gardner to approve the agenda. Vote: unanimous

Approval of Meeting Minutes: No changes made

Motion: A motion was made by Becky Campaner and seconded by Bob Gardner to approve the meeting minutes from May 19, 2022. Vote: unanimous

Announcements: None

Agenda Items: Reports

Treasurer's Report: The only change in the accounts was interest received.

Motion: A motion was made by Cyndi Lavin and seconded by Becky Campaner to approve the Treasurer's report. Vote: unanimous

Invoice Report: Samantha Benoit mailed out the proof sheets from the warrants and they were discussed. There were no questions. Purchasing is on track for the end of the Fiscal Year.

Motion: A motion was made by Bob Gardner and seconded by Sue Kennedy to approve the Invoice report. Vote: unanimous

Director's Report: Samantha reported that the hours have now changed, and that the earlier opening on Saturday is very popular.

Storytime has been busy, and the program featuring Deputy Police Chief Jen Bigelow (formerly the SRO) drew a crowd of 88 participants.

The marketing for Summer Reading has been very successful. There are lots of hits on each social media outreach post, and it is reflected by increased visits to the Library. The management team reports that they are starting to see pre-covid numbers of patrons returning to the Library.

There was a small leak in the kitchen, which will be repaired when Chuck Shultz can arrange it.

Staff members Heidi Flynn and Sue Hauk have worked for a year and a half to label and code all of the series the Library holds, in every format, with colors and numbers.

Motion: A motion was made by Becky Campaner and seconded by Bob Gardner to approve the Director's report. Vote unanimous

Agenda Item: Old Business

Director search: Luke Kirkland is the candidate that has been given an offer. Salary became an issue, and there was a discussion on how to make an offer closer to what he was looking for. Cyndi Lavin suggested that State Aid could be used on a one-time basis to fund it. Samantha Benoit suggested that it might be better to use State Aid to fund the staff increase as a whole rather than funding a single position. Then money earmarked for wages could be shifted. She will call the State office to inquire, and will report to Sharon Slarksy tomorrow.

Library Staff Pay Scale: Sharon reported that the new pay scale grid would be implemented July 1, the beginning of the new fiscal year. Thus, Motions #2, #3, and #4 regarding the pay scale from the last meeting were rescinded. Only the first motion, regarding the acceptance of the pay scale (Motion #1 below) is still active. The motions have all be reprinted here for the reader's ease.

Motion #1: A motion was made by Sue Kennedy and seconded by Cyndi Lavin to approve the new grid as the basis of staff wages at the Ayer Library. Vote unanimous

Motion #2: A motion was made by Rebecca Myers and seconded by Sue Kennedy to postpone enacting the grid until a new Director is employed and can assess the proposed grades and steps. 7-1-0, Cyndi Lavin dissenting

Motion #3: A motion was made by Sue Kennedy and seconded by Becky Campaner to provide the staff with the usual 2% cola increase plus \$300 each, starting July 1, 2022. The management team will each receive a 3% wage increase, starting July 1, 2022. Vote unanimous

Motion #4: A motion was made by Rebecca Myers and seconded by Becky Campaner that wages set by the new Director, using the approved grid, will be retroactive to July 1, 2022. Vote unanimous

Motion: A motion was made by Becky Campaner and seconded by Bob Gardner to rescind Motions 2 through 4. 6-1-0, Sue Kennedy dissenting

Ceiling Repair Update: The electrical system needs to be updated. The paintings will not go to a museum as hoped, but have been safely stored.

Next Meetings:

July 21, 2022 at 6:00pm

August 11, 2022 at 6:00pm

September 8, 2022 at 6:00pm

Adjournment:

Motion: A motion was made by Becky Campaner and seconded by Bob Gardner to adjourn meeting at 7:17pm. Vote unanimous

RECEIVED

SEP 09 2022

TOWN OF AYER
TOWN CLERK

A handwritten signature, possibly 'CV', enclosed within a circular outline.